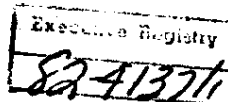


The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

DDS&T-131-82



General Lew Allen, Jr.
Chief of Staff
United States Air Force
Room 4E925, Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

Dear Lew:

Twenty-seven years ago this month CIA, in conjunction with the United States Air Force, embarked on the U-2 Program, an effort that over the intervening years has made many positive contributions to our respective knowledge of strategic reconnaissance.

We believe that the time has come to share the early versions of this remarkable aircraft with the American people. One of these early aircraft, the seventh one built and the first to overfly denied territory, has been in dead storage some three years now. The National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian has informally expressed a keen interest in obtaining and displaying this historic aircraft if it can be donated to them. Kelly Johnson of Lockheed has indicated that his company will underwrite the refurbishment of the airplane and will arrange to deliver it to Andrews Air Force Base under its own power.

In addition to the aircraft, we would propose donating one of the early "B" cameras and the first version of the tracker camera, both of which we understand are in storage at Warner Robbins Air Force Base in Georgia. No other sensors would be displayed. At the time the aircraft arrived at Andrews we could arrange a public turnover ceremony with the Museum principals acknowledging the roles of CIA and Air Force in this historic program. No disclosures would be made that would in any way conflict with current Air Force utilization of later model U-2s, nor would comparisons be made with the TR-1.

If you find this idea attractive, perhaps you would designate someone with whom my designee could work to coordinate this proposal in our respective best interests.

Sincerely,

B. R. Inman
Admiral, U.S. Navy

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